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1 scheduling a time for transmitting a unit of programming from each of said
2 plurality of intermediate transmission stations to a subscriber, the scheduled times
3 differing from intermediate station to intermediate station;

4 communicating to a computer at each intermediate transmission station the
5 scheduled time for its intermediate transmission station to transmit said unit of
6 programming to a subscriber;

7 transmitting said unit of programming to said plurality of intermediate
8 transmission station;

9 controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to receive
10 and store said unit of programming for a period of time; and

controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to
11 transmit said received and stored unit of programming at its scheduled time.
12

cont
13 3. A method of communicating programming to subscribers in a network,
14 said network comprising one or more programming origination stations, a plurality of
15 intermediate transmission stations, and a plurality of subscriber stations, each
16 intermediate transmission station receiving programming from an origination station
17 and retransmitting said received programming to at least one subscriber station, said
18 method comprising the steps of:

19 scheduling a channel or frequency for transmitting a unit of programming from
20 each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to a subscriber, the
21 scheduled channels or frequencies differing from intermediate station to intermediate
22 station;

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1 communicating to a computer at each intermediate transmission station the
2 scheduled channel or frequency for its intermediate transmission station to transmit
3 said unit of programming to a subscriber;

4 transmitting said unit of programming to said plurality of intermediate
5 transmission station;

6 controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to receive
7 and store said unit of programming for a period of time; and

8 controlling each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to
9 transmit said received and stored unit of programming on its scheduled channel or
10 frequency.

11 4. A method of communicating programming to subscribers in a network,
12 said network comprising one or more programming origination stations, a plurality of
13 intermediate transmission stations, and a plurality of subscriber stations, each
14 intermediate transmission station receiving programming from an origination station
15 and retransmitting said received programming to at least one subscriber station, said
16 method comprising the steps of:

17 scheduling a time (and) a channel or frequency for transmitting a unit of
18 programming from each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to a
19 subscriber, the scheduled times (or) channels or frequencies differing from intermediate
20 station to intermediate station;

21 communicating to a computer at each intermediate transmission station a
22 scheduled time (or) channel or frequency for its intermediate transmission station to
23 transmit said unit of programming to a subscriber;

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(cont)